

Britain at that date comprised 7,518 men and the Newfoundland Forestry Corps 427 men.

The figures above given for labour have since been increased. The Department however endeavours as far as possible to use prisoners of war and other miscellaneous labour of which there is so pronounced a scarcity that the timber trade is far from being able to obtain the number of suitable men needed to yield the maximum production."

This Report, which was furnished to me by the Department on 28th October, 1918, concluded with the statement that: "The steps taken are such that there is every hope of tiding over the period of the War.⁵³ This hope was splendidly fulfilled. There was no more useful contribution to our mortal struggle with the submarine than this organisation of our home supplies of timber. It stripped this island of some of its best forest. Alas, the efforts made to replenish the loss have *Post-War* 1^^ perfunctory. Not only most of our

re-afforest once c^ac^ s^es> ^Ut *ar&e areas
fine timber are now bare and broken.

The lesson of the War has not yet been learnt in this and many other respects. Punishment is apt to teach the wrong lessons to its victims.